

Insidious Propaganda and a Confusing Americanism

THE INSIDIOUS propaganda now scattered broadcast among the American people, chiefly through a number of publications essaying to espouse the cause of the Ku Klux Klan, that President Calvin Coolidge in effect is playing into the hands of foreign interests, particularly the pope of Rome, and of having made the presidency of our great country an agency to promote the interest of the Catholic church, has a poisonous effect, far more dangerous than any current of malediction set in motion by any element of malefactors in America since the revolutionary days up to the present time, not exempting those other enemies within who have given first allegiance to such unsavory organizations as the I. W. W. and the Communistic alliance.

It is perhaps nothing else than what might be expected that those who are fighting the cause of this new Americanism having for their slogan this terse phrase of an unmistakable meaning: "America for Americans of native birth," should be willing to sacrifice principles to the extent that they would not hesitate to malign their own constituted authorities in high and low places, who in spite of their American nativity are unwilling to administer the laws of our land solely in the interest of this new group, but these brazen attacks upon our president, quote in the language style of the I. W. W., is something so provoking that the entire nation has been stirred.

No one American by birth or adoption is more despicable than he who in the name of American patriotism applies the cunning art of perversion to undermine the American morale and to destroy the confidence and respect of the Americans for the men whom they have elected as their representatives to guard the interests of ALL Americans; whether it be in the town hall or in the White House, in the community council or in Congress, in the village court room or in the supreme court of our country.

Those who are responsible for having unleashed the monsters of religious and racial hate in America may prosper for a time by their villany, but their prosperity is but temporary and as uncertain as their eventual banishment from common American fellowship is a certainty.

The malicious intent in the propaganda against President Coolidge is obvious.

The unfortunate events which placed the vice-president in the White House upset certain political plans of the poison ink squad, who direct their energy to stir up the baser emotions among the unthinking elements of our people and who are actuated by no higher desire than to place in political power those enemies of our common interests who are promoting internal strife and trade in unclean thoughts in the mart of sacrificed national virtues.

It is to be hoped that the President of America, regardless of his personal affiliations, fraternal and religious, will always be big enough, broad enough and representative enough to speak for ALL Americans and take an equal interest in every unit, political, religious and fraternal, so long as such a unit

embraces the common faith in citizenship without malice toward any other. Should an American citizen, elevated to the high office of president, fail to embrace this broad principle, then America shall have ceased to be the home of the free and the land where men may, without the interference of others, worship God according to the dictates of their conscience.

Not alone has the president, a Presbyterian by faith, been maligned by the anti-Catholic, anti-Jew and anti-foreign born elements, but the wife of the president, an equally faithful Congregationalist of known standing among her New England neighbors and friends, was no sooner acclaimed the first lady of the land before she also became the target of the maligners who broadcasted the untruth that she was a member of the Roman Catholic church holding her membership as such up to scorn before the womanhood of America.

How far have we already sunk in the mire of religious and racial bigotry that Americans can with immunity throw aspersions upon a clean and chaste American woman in high or lowly station, impugning her virtues in character and citizenship, because of her faith and religious belief?

Are there Americans who are actually willing to believe that membership in the Roman Catholic church of America, adherence to the orthodox faith of the American Jewish synagogue, or birth in a

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